

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GUATEM 05329 232236Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 NSC-05 INR-07

H-01 SP-02 /058 W

-----024101 240149Z /70

R 232151Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7238
INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 5329

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PBOR, BY, GT, UK
SUBJ: U.S. POLICY ON BELIZE

REF: STATE 189611

1. SUMMARY: GOG HAS INFORMALLY REQUESTED THAT OUR CONSULATE GENERAL IN BELIZE ISSUE LOCAL CLARIFICATION OF AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S AUGUST 9 STATEMENT IN SAN JOSE WHICH WAS INTERPRETED AS US SUPPORT FOR BELIZE INDEPENDENCE. WE HOPE A WAY CAN BE FOUND TO SATISFY IN SOME MEASURE GOG REQUEST. END SUMMARY.

2. FONMIN'S DIRECTOR FOR BELIZE AFFAIRS MANUEL EDUARDO RODRIGUEZ AUGUST 22 NOTED TO CHIEF OF POLITICAL SECTION THAT BELIZE TIMES HAD IGNORED GUATEMALAN CONSUL'S LETTER TO EDITOR TAKING ISSUE WITH THAT PAPER'S AUGUST 17 HEADLINE WHICH READ "U.S. DECLARES SUPPORT FOR BELIZE INDEPENDENCE." OUR CLARIFICATION OF YOUNG'S STATEMENT HAD NEVER APPEARED IN BELIZE PRESS, ACCORDING TO RODRIGUEZ. HE SAID GOG CONSUL'S LETTER CONVEYED TEXT (REF) AS FURNISHED BY THIS EMBASSY TO FONMIN MOLINA. RODRIGUEZ ASKED THAT WE HAVE OUR CONSULAE GENERAL SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT IN THE BELIZE TIMES. EMBASSY REACTED NONCOMMITTALLY TO HIS INFORMAL APPROACH, BUT PROMISED RESPONSE WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS.

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3. ACTION REQUESTED: RODRIGUEZ DOUBTLESS APPRECIATES DELICACY OF WHAT HE HAS ASKED FOR, BUT KNOWS THAT EVEN IF WE AGREE, THERE IS NO ASSURANCE BELIZE TIMES WILL AMEND THE RECORD. SINCE OUR CLARIFICATION IS A MATTER OF OFFICIAL RECORD BOTH HERE AND IN WASHINGTON, GUATEMALANS WOULD BE TEMPTED TO READ RELUCTANCE TO ACCEDE TO THEIR SEEMINGLY

INNOCENT REQUEST AS AN INDICATION THAT OUR POSITION ON BELIZE HAS IN FACT UNDERGONE SOME CHANGE. SUBJECT TO CONGEN BELIZE'S VIEWS, WE HOPE DEPT WILL AUTHORIZE BELIZE, AT MINIMUM, TO CIRCULATE REFTEL GUIDANCE TO BELIZE MEDIA. WE WOULD INFORM GOG THAT THIS IS BEING DONE.

4. FYI: IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION IT DEVELOPED THAT RODRIGUEZ EXPECTS TO BE IN BELIZE AUGUST 24-30, SPECIFICALLY IN PUNTA GORDA. ASKED WHAT WAS TAKING HIM HERE, HE SAID HE HAD SOME FREE TIME AND WANTED TO "TALK TO PEOPLE" THERE. BOSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, INDEPENDENCE, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: GUATEMALA
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TAGS: PBOR, PDEV, BH, GT, UK, US
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